















# WATSON'S OLD BROWN BRANDY

25 YEARS IN WOOD.  
A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd.,  
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,  
Telephone No. 818.

## To-day's Advertisements

### PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONSIGNEES),

**SATURDAY,**  
the 31st August, 1918, at 10.30 a.m.,  
at No. 12, Knutsford Terrace,  
Kowloon.

THE SUNDAY  
VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD  
FURNITURE,  
therein contained:  
Comprising—Upholstered Chair and  
Chesterfield Sofa, Blackwood Cabinet,  
Bedroom Furniture,  
Also:  
Electric Fittings, Fans, Tea Chest,  
Fitter, Tennis Racket and Netting and a  
number of Chinese Porcelain Curios, &c.  
(Full Particulars from Catalogue).  
(On view day of Sale).  
Terms—Cash.  
HUGHES & HOUGH,  
Auctioneers,  
Hongkong, Aug. 24, 1918. 896

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.  
FROM PENANG & SINGAPORE.  
The Steamship  
"HELLAS,"  
having arrived from the above Ports,  
Consignees of Cargo by her are notified  
that all Goods are being landed at their  
risk into the Godowns and/or extra  
baulkards Godowns of the Hongkong  
and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co.,  
Ltd., whence and/or from the wharves  
delivery may be obtained.  
Goods not cleared by the 31st August,  
will be subject to rent.  
All broken, chipped and damaged pack-  
ages are to be left in the Godowns,  
where they will be examined by Messrs.  
Gordon and Douglas.  
Claims against the Steamer must be  
presented in writing within 10 days  
of arrival of Steamer, otherwise they  
will not be recognized.  
No Fire Insurance will be effected by  
the undersigned in any case whatever.  
H. M. H. NEMAZEE,  
Hongkong, Aug. 24, 1918. 897

KODAKS  
and FILMS,  
PLATES  
and PAPER,  
DEVELOPING & PRINTING  
UNDERTAKEN.

A. TACK & CO.,  
26, Des Voeux Road Central.  
(368)

OVERLAND CHINA MAIL.  
THE WEEKLY EDITION OF THE  
"CHINA MAIL."

CONTAINS ALL THE NEWS  
OF THE WEEK.  
PRICE 25 cts. (cash) per Copy

THE FIRST CHINESE NEWSPAPER  
EVER ISSUED UNDER  
PURELY NATIVE DIRECTION.

The Chinese Mail  
華字日報

THE LEADING CHINESE POLITICAL AND  
COMMERCIAL JOURNAL.  
PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.  
CONTAINS THE MOST RELIABLE  
TELEGRAPHIC NEWS FROM  
NORTH CHINA.

ALL THE LATEST INTELLIGENCE FROM THE  
VARIOUS PORTS IN CHINA AND JAPAN.  
\$12.00 per Annum delivered in Hongkong  
\$18.00 to all Post Ports.

No. 5, WELLINGTON STREET, HONGKONG.

## NEWS OF THE DAY.

### LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The Manila Observatory at noon today reported a Typhoon in about 124° long E. and 21° Lat North moving N.W.

There are rumours in Peking that votes are being bought at \$5,000 each to secure Chu Sai Chong's election to the Presidency of the Republic.

Rubber at 36 cents a pound in Singapore means that it must be produced for less than ten pence a lb., even to pay the cost of production.—*Malay Mail.*

According to a United Press dispatch from San Francisco, Captain Yamamoto Yoshio, of the O.S.K. *Canada-maru*, which recently stranded, fell overboard while the steamer was proceeding to Seattle to be dry-docked for repair. There are suggestions that the Captain committed suicide. According to a dispatch received by the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, Captain Yamamoto shot himself in his cabin on the morning of the 15th instant when the ship was approaching the dry-dock at Seattle, and then jumped overboard. He left two letters for the steamer company and his family. It is believed that the suicide was due to his sense of responsibility for the recent accident to his steamer.

### LOCAL STEAMER WRECKED.

#### FEARED TOTAL LOSS.

STRIKES EAST LAMMOCKS.  
Messrs. Butterfield and Swire have received news, this morning, that the *Sing Kiang* has been wrecked off the East Lammocks. The news so far received is brief and the actual cause of the wreck is not definitely known.

Reports have come in that there has been a fog in the vicinity and it is assumed that this will be the explanation. All on board have been safely taken off, but it is feared that the vessel will become a total loss.

The *Sing Kiang* left Hongkong last Tuesday, carrying mails, and since the latest report states that some of the baggage was saved, it is assumed that the mails have also been recovered.

### APPOINTMENTS GAZETTED.

The following appointments are announced in today's *Gazette*—

Hon. Mr. D. Landale to be an Unofficial Member of the Executive Council, during the absence on leave of the Hon. Sir C. P. Chater, C.M.G.

Mr. E. W. Hamilton attached to the Sanitary Department for special duty.

F. P. E. L. Potter to act as Assistant District Officer in the Southern District of the New Territories, vice Mr. E. W. Hamilton.

F. P. E. L. Potter to be a Magistrate with authority to hold a Small Debts Court in the New Territories.

Dr. H. L. Cumming to be a Lieut. in the H.K.D.C., vice Lieut. C. W. McKenny, transferred to the Supernumerary List.

Mr. J. W. White to act on behalf of the Building Authority in certain cases.

### HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

Orders issued by Mr. F. G. Jenkin, C.B.E.

EQUIPMENT.  
All applications for Equipment, after being endorsed and recommended by the Unit Commander concerned, will in future be addressed to the Stores Officer, Headquarters Office.

SEARCH INSPECTORS.  
All Inspectors, Sergeants and Constables doing Search Supervision duty are warned to attend without fail before the D.S.P.R. at Headquarters Office at 5.30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 27th. Uniform optional.

STAFF INSPECTORS.  
All Staff Inspectors (ex-regular Police) will attend at this Office on Tuesday, August 27th at 5.30 p.m. Uniform optional.

PARADES, CENTRAL 5.30 P.M.  
Monday, August 26th—No. 3 Company.  
Friday, August 30th—No. 3 Company.  
Uniform, helmets and spikes.  
The above Parades will be inspected by a Superintendent at 6 p.m.

HEADQUARTERS CLUB.  
The band will play at H.Q. Club on Friday, August 30th, commencing at 6 p.m.  
Hongkong, August 24th, 1918.

### KEEP IT HANDY

IMMEDIATE relief is necessary in attacks of diarrhoea. Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy should always be on hand. For sale by all Chemists and Dispensaries.

## CHINESE AFFAIRS.

### THE BANKING CONSORTIUM AND MILITARY EXPENSES.

(The "Chinese Mail" Service.)  
Peking, Aug. 23.

The Four-Powers Banking Syndicate held a meeting at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank on the 21st inst. and decided to request their Ministers to protest against China using the reserve funds of the Salt revenue for military expenses.

### THE GOLD NOTE PROJECT SUSPENDED.

Peking, Aug. 23.  
Owing to the objections of the Banking Consortium to the regulations for the gold note issue, the Ministers concerned have announced their intention not to enforce them for the time being and the Foreign Ministers have in consequence consented to postpone the lodging of a protest.

### DR. BARNARDO'S HOMES.

#### GIFTS FROM HONGKONG.

Mrs. Pollock has received from the General Secretary of Dr. Barnardo's Homes, the following grateful acknowledgment—  
18 to 26 Stepney Causeway,  
London, 25th June, 1918.

Dear Madam.—We have received your kind letter of the 16th April, containing £137 13s. 6d., being result of donations and a sale of Work during Lent, in aid of Dr. Barnardo's Homes, and on behalf of our Honorary Director and Council I send herewith our Official Receipt with very grateful thanks. Such a gift from Overseas is most cheering in these times of high food prices, for our family numbers over 7,000 children and their needs are neither few nor small. We are most grateful to our friends in Hongkong for remembering the needs of the children in the Homeland in this time of stress and strain.

It will be interesting to you to know that of all the Outposts of Empire, Hongkong by comparison with its size, stands out as the most generous to our Homes during the War, and we thank you very heartily for your share in stimulating these gifts. We know the hard work which it must have entailed, notice that your collection has gone up by leaps and bounds. Your annual collection in our books stands as follows—

£ 35.	1s.	10d.	in 1912.
35.	1	0	in 1914.
33.	8	9	in 1915.
50.	0	0	in 1916.
100.	0	0	in 1917.
137.	13	6	in 1918.

The Hongkong War Charities Committee have generously sent us three gifts amounting to £2,300, and the Hongkong St. George's Society have sent us £1,000. These are in addition to individual gifts and collections such as your own. There must be a very kind feeling beating in the hearts of the Hongkong residents for the children in the Homeland, and we are exceedingly grateful.

Our work continues apace. Since War broke out we have admitted 6,077 children—a large proportion being the children of our soldiers and sailors. Among the admissions, last year were two from Singapore, so that you will see our net reaches far and wide.

Our Charter is "No Destitute Child ever Refused Admission." We have no voting system, no waiting list, and no caste. If a child needs our aid, we give it willingly. Child-life is the Nation's greatest asset, and it is a privilege to be able to hold out the hand of help to these destitute and forlorn little ones. 86,000 children in all have entered our Homes, and 10,356 Barnardo boys are fighting for us on land and sea. Over 6,000 of these are in the Overseas Contingents—boys migrated in previous years.

I think the enclosed booklet "The Hope of Britain's Future" is in the Coming Generation, which we are just publishing, will interest you.

Once again thanking you and the other friends very heartily, I am, Dear Madam, Faithfully yours,

CLAUDE WRIGHT,  
General Secretary.

### TEETHING CHILDREN.

TEETHING children have more or less diarrhoea, which can be controlled by giving Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy. All that is necessary is to give the prescribed dose after each operation of the bowels more than natural and then castor oil to cleanse the system. It is safe and sure. Even when it is necessary to take over from England all her liabilities which she may have after this war towards those who have been wounded or towards the dependants of those who have been killed. Why men here should be treated better than those that go from England to India, I cannot understand. As to the men going to India, I must say that I see no reason why they should not be put on the same footing as men going to England.

## CONSCRIPTION IN MALAYA.

### THE PROBLEM OF WIVES AND CHILDREN.

At a recent meeting of the Federal Council, Sir Arthur Young, the High Commissioner, in the course of a speech said:—

"There shall be paid out of the general funds of the F.M.S. to every person so called out a sum equivalent to the difference between the Imperial rate of pay, allowances and pensions for the rank in which such person shall for the time being be serving and the highest rate now or hereafter paid by any of His Majesty's Governments or Dominions to persons in Imperial contingents."

There shall also be paid in the case of every person so called out, and married prior to the passing of the Enactment, the cost of a second class passage for his wife and family and in the event of such wife and family being unable to obtain a passage the sum of \$... shall be paid for the wife's maintenance and \$... for each child until such time as a passage is available, provided always that in exceptional cases the Chief Secretary may increase such allowances not exceeding \$300 for the wife and \$50 for each child.

Both amendments were ruled out of order by the High Commissioner, who stated that under Rule 12 of the Standing Orders, only the Government could put forward measures involving the expenditure of sums of money from public funds.

Mr. Kenion argued that he was within his rights in putting forward an amendment to such a measure introduced by Government.

The Legal Adviser held that the Bill as it then stood did not involve any expenditure of public funds, and that it was a measure of a purely administrative character, and that it was within the powers of the High Commissioner to introduce it.

Mr. Kenion entered a formal protest against the ruling, being supported by all the Unofficial Members. During the discussion on the first suggested clause in answer to a question, Mr. Kenion said he took the "highest rate" to be that of Hongkong \$200 a month.

The High Commissioner said he understood that had been proposed, but he did not know whether it had been allowed in Hongkong. He added that the Unofficials seemed to be all agreed, but it came to the vote whether they were to take a vote on the proposed new clause or not. He would have to rule it out of order.

During the discussion on the second suggested clause the High Commissioner said the Government had a trust, and that trust was to look after the public revenues of the State.

Mr. Kenion: I do not think it would run you in for more than \$300,000, and I really think in an Imperial matter of this sort the Government could very well face the cost.

The High Commissioner: We may never have to face anything if the restrictions are not taken off.

Mr. Kenion said even then wives and children could go down to Australia or New Zealand, or to India, and in cases where they were willing to do so, he would certainly give allowances to get them to go. Many wives were very keen that their husbands should take part in the war.

The High Commissioner said he saw in a paper that he quoted the previous day, that the passage should not be paid of wives and children going to India, but should be paid in the case of those going Home.

Mr. Kenion thought it should be the other way about. Many planters said they could not go unless they got an allowance.

The High Commissioner: You say you should give it as a matter of course? Mr. Kenion: Of right.

The High Commissioner: As a matter of course or right? We may let the committee decide whether it shall be given or not.

This clause also was ruled out of order. The Bill was eventually passed with the Government amendments only.

## THE RICE RIOTS IN JAPAN.

### PUBLICATION STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

OSAKA, Aug. 13.

The Minister of the Interior has ordered a strict suppression of the publication of reports of the disturbances. This will undoubtedly be effective in preventing further disaffection and tending down the present frenzied feeling.

In Osaka, Kobe and the other cities, ample forces are now out on duty and the authorities are vigorously taking matters in hand. The streets are in complete darkness and the windows in many of the buildings have been boarded up. Soldiers and policemen were seen all night hurrying hither and thither in motor-cars, and cavalrymen were used to disperse even the smallest crowd. It is hoped that order will now be soon restored.—*Reuter.*

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# TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

## THE GREAT BATTLE.

### FRENCH OCCUPY MANY NEW POINTS.

LONDON, Aug. 22. A French communiqué states:—During the night, our troops maintained contact with the enemy between the Matz and the Oise and east of the Oise. We occupied La Pléville, Thionville, Neumünster and Ville and reached the Divette. We are on the edge of the Oise, east of Noyon, from Sempigny to Brétigny. Further east, we captured Bourguignon and St. Paul-aux-Bois and are pushing northward of these villages. We reached the Ailette at Quilly. Between the Ailette and the Marne there has been no change except in the region of Pommiers, of which we hold the western outskirts.

### GOOD AERIAL WORK BY FRENCH.

LONDON, Aug. 23. A French communiqué states:—Yesterday, we brought down seventeen enemy aeroplanes and destroyed six captive balloons. We several times caught the retreating enemy under our machine-guns in the region of Lassigny and between the Oise and the Aisne. We dropped, during the day-time, 34 tons of bombs in the regions of Chantilly, Martailly, Vauxaillon and Anzy-le-Château. At night-time we dropped 28 tons on railway stations at Thionville, Contigny and Mézières and also on the battle zone. Numerous bursts were observed on the objectives and fires were observed on the stations at Contigny, Elam, Guisard, Chantilly, Thionville, Thioncourt and Pontavert. Yesterday evening, the Germans bombarded Dunkirk with shells of great calibre. Seven civilians were killed and one injured.

### GERMAN REPORTS.

LONDON, Aug. 23. A wireless German official message states:—The British and New Zealanders attacked between Moyenneville and the Ancre. Their first onslaught broke down before our battle positions. We recaptured, in counter-attacks, portions of ground which we had ceded. According to plan we retired a short distance south westward of Noyon. We also withdrew our troops from Carlepont Wood to behind the Oise. The enemy gained ground at Blerancourt. A German evening official message states:—English large-scale attacks, north westward of Bapaume and between Albert and the Somme, failed.

### HINDENBURG ON THE "SET-BACK."

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 22. Field-Marshal von Hindenburg, reviewing the Third German regiment, on the anniversary of the storming of St. Privat in 1870, said: "Although we may frankly admit we have had a set-back, our position is favourable. We must not be influenced by what has happened. Success is with us. The enemy begins to show weariness. As long as we do not relax our efforts we shall obtain an honourable and a strong German peace."

### 4,600,000 IRON CROSSES.

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 22. The *Vossische Zeitung* states that over 4,600,000 Iron Crosses have been awarded.

### AFFAIRS IN RUSSIA.

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 23. According to a German source, the Red Guards, upon capturing Simbirsk, publicly hanged in the market place 300 Czech-Slovaks.

### RED ARMY COMMANDER REPORTED CAPTURED.

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 23. The *Wester Zeitung* learns from Archangel that General Petapoff, the Commander-in-Chief of the Red Army in Murmansk, was caught by the Whites, and given to the British.

## SURVEY OF BATTLE POSITION.

### SUMMARY OF A WEEK'S HAPPENINGS.

LONDON, Aug. 22. The intensely interesting battle position continues to be the one great topic. Events are moving so fast that it is difficult to keep pace with them, but a summary of the week's happenings may be useful. "Chinches and Roye are not yet captured, but are closely invested by the combined operations of General Rawlinson's Fourth Army, General Debeney's First French Army and General Humbert's Third French Army.

Between the 15th and 17th inst. these Franco-British forces advanced astride the Amiens-Roye road to the western outskirts of Roye, while the important key point of Lassigny, on the Tassigny Massif, was captured by itself had been captured by General Humbert, after a strenuous struggle.

Between the Matz and the Aisne the Germans stubbornly resisted the French offensive on the 18th and 19th and prevented the French making much progress here. This was exactly what Marshal Foch aimed at, as it fixed the enemy's attention on this part of the field, while a new development was materialising elsewhere. This new development was a hammer blow by General Mangin's Tenth French Army, which began on the 18th on a front of about ten miles and has swept forward irresistibly as far as the Ailette.

By Wednesday evening General Mangin's battle-front had broadened to sixteen miles from the Aisne to Badly, and a maximum penetration so far of some fifteen or eighteen miles. Meanwhile, General Humbert's Third Army, advancing on General Mangin's left, progressed more than five miles at its furthest point and is streaming down the further slopes of Lassigny and beyond.

It is too early yet to predict the effect of this advance but it is evident that it constitutes a serious threat to the enemy's positions northward of the Aisne, and if it can be continued further it will outflank the whole German lines on the Aisne and Vesle rivers. The German lines to the west of the Oise are also threatened. The Allies have, in fact, succeeded in driving a formidable wedge between the groups of armies commanded respectively by the Crown Prince and General von Boehm.

The total number of prisoners captured between the Oise and the Aisne from the 18th to the 20th exceeds 10,000. This number is likely to be considerably exceeded when the captures of yesterday and today are added.

The French made very successful use of the element of surprise and their losses have been gratifyingly small.

Surprise tactics were also effectively employed on the 21st inst. when General Byng attacked northward of the Ancre. The British in this sector advanced practically to the line of the Albert-Arras railway. General Byng's attack is a direct threat to the German positions on the important Thiepval ridge and also the right flank of the enemy's line on the Ancre. These "positions" have a melancholy interest for both the British and the French as they were the scene of several costly failures in 1915 and 1916.

During the week the Germans effected a slight further retirement in the Serre salient and also evacuated some trenches on either bank of the Scarpe.

In the Lys salient the withdrawal has been continued, accompanied by successful hustling tactics by the British who secured nearly a thousand prisoners. The interesting question is: "To what line do the Germans intend to retire?" The Germans have recently shown desperate anxiety to evacuate salients and straighten their front. The opinion is that this may be preliminary to a withdrawal on a more extended scale, such as that undertaken at the beginning of 1917. There is at present nothing to show that the Germans are going to retire so far, but such a retirement is not impossible, considering the enemy's extreme losses and serious shortage of men.

### OTHER THEATRES OF THE WAR.

Regarding the other theatres of the war, nothing important has occurred in Italy, but it is interesting to note that the Austrian losses on the British front in Italy between June 15th and August 15th is estimated at 20,000, whereas the total British casualties in the same period were only 2,544. The Russian situation is somewhat obscure, but it may be mentioned that the Japanese force which has landed at Vladivostok is considerable. In Persia and the Caucasus the only change during the week has been the defeat of the Turks in the area westward of Lake Urmiah by the Turks who have taken the town of Urmiah. This led to wholesale migration by the Jeli population who feared massacre. They were closely pursued by the Turks until a force of British cavalry dispersed the enemy and escorted the fugitives to safety.

## RENEWED OFFENSIVE.

### THE BRITISH ATTACK PROGRESSES.

LONDON, Aug. 22. Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—At 4.45 this morning, we attacked the enemy's positions between the Somme and the Ancre. By night-fall on Wednesday our patrols had progressed on the left bank of the Ancre southward and south-eastward of Beaucourt. We maintained the positions gained yesterday northward of the Ancre against strong counter-attacks, in the afternoon and evening, on the Mtsamont-Achiet-le-Grand front. Fresh counter-attacks developed this morning opposite Mtsamont and Lles. We captured two to three thousand prisoners and a few guns on Wednesday and further progressed eastward and north-eastward of Marville. We reached the outskirts of Neuf Berquin and captured a strong point northward of Baillou.

We repulsed, after sharp fighting, a strong local counter-attack against Lorchet farm, north-westward of Dranoutre. Further fighting occurred in the night on this sector.

### FRENCH LIBERATE A SCORE OF VILLAGES.

LONDON, Aug. 22.

A French communiqué states:—Between the Matz and the Oise the enemy, despite his resistance, bent under our vigorous pressure.

Lassigny has fallen, and farther south we gained a footing in Le Plémont, captured Orval Wood and reached the outskirts of Chery Ourscamp.

We continued our successes east of the Oise and captured Carlepont Woods, which are on the Oise east of Noyon, between Sempigny and Pont-Oise.

Farther east, we passed the Nogoy-Coucy-le-Château road, and captured Camille-le-Franc and Barancourt and reached the outskirts of St. Aubin.

Since yesterday we have liberated a score of villages and advanced eight kilometres at certain points.

Nine enemy aeroplanes were killed and three balloons set on fire yesterday. Forty-one tons of projectiles were dropped during the day from a height varying from 50 to 500 yards on troop concentrations, convoys, and the passages of the Ailette; in addition tens of thousands of cartridges were fired. We continued to attack by bomb and machine-gun the Ailette passages at night-time, besides dropping 23 tons of bombs on several stations.

### LARGE CAPTURE OF PRISONERS.

LONDON, Aug. 22.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We captured two to three thousand prisoners and a few guns on Wednesday. This morning we attacked the enemy's positions between the Somme and the Ancre.

### A GREAT STRATEGIC SCHEME.

LONDON, Aug. 22.

The series of blows now being dealt the Germans on the whole front from the Belgian frontier to Rheims is remarkable, not merely for the rapidity with which they succeed each other, but for the fact that they are not isolated enterprises, but integral parts of a great strategic scheme directed by a master hand.

As a first step, Ludendorff is like a bull being manoeuvred and mastered by a javelin expert. It is conceded that the Germans planned the retreat, but they were forced to carry out the retreat according to the will of the Allies, and if the enemy tries to stand, he risks annihilation of whole units. The fresh heavy losses the enemy has again sustained proves the retreat is in no way the voluntary operation he pretends. Apart from material losses, the enemy is suffering heavily in moral from the paralyzing uncertainty imposed on him by the variety of the tactics and strategy of the Allied operations. The attacks by Generals Mangin and Byng, the two outstanding operations of the moment, were successful because both effected complete surprise.

General Byng avoided a frontal attack along the Somme and by striking further north prepared the way for a converging attack on the Somme positions from the north and south. General Mangin's advance on the left of the Oise promises to envelop Noyon from the east, thus helping General Humbert in the Lassigny region.

### THE GERMAN RETREAT.

PARIS, Aug. 22.

Referring to last evening's German communiqué a semi-official statement says:—The German Command, being no longer able to plead elastic falling back, or victory for its rearguard, or the desire to secure more freedom of manœuvre to explain its retreat, is being driven to the conclusion that it is too simple to take any more. The facts fortunately speak for themselves.

### SUPPLIED BY ALL CHEMISTS.

Physicians prescribed Chamberlain's Cough and Diarrhoea Remedy because it relieves cramps in the stomach and intestinal pain quicker than any preparation they can compound. It can be bought from any chemist. A bottle will keep for years and no home is complete without it. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

## TWO FRENCH STEAMERS SUNK.

### "POLYNESIEN" SUNK BY A MINE.

PARIS, Aug. 22.

The Messageries Maritimes liner *Polynisien*, 6,375 tons, en route from Bizerte to Salonika with Serbian troops, was mined on August 10th and sank. Nineteen people are missing. The French steamer *Bellevue*, 1,709 tons, was torpedoed in the Mediterranean on August 15 and sank within a minute. So far 102 have been saved.

### BARON SCHROEDER.

Mr. Turton, in the House of Commons asked if

"A German baron called Schroeder, naturalised since the commencement of the war, has for the past three years been in the habit of receiving immense consignments of coal for his house and gardens at Englefield Green, a large portion being consigned in the name of the gardener, Shill, prior to the war called Schiller; whether, in April last, Baron Schroeder received at Egham Station 120 tons of anthracite from Swansea and 7 tons of household coal from Broadworth collieries, near Doncaster; whether the total consignments so received from April, 1917 to April 1918 amounted to 520 tons of anthracite and 105 of household coal; and if so, whether, having regard to the coal shortage and the difficulty of railway transport, he will direct the Coal Controller that this German baron shall not be given undue preference over loyal and patriotic Englishmen."

Mr. Wardle, for the Board of Trade, The facts are substantially as stated. The household coal was for two large houses and eleven cottages. An Englefield Green is outside the area covered by the coal-rationing scheme, information was not brought to the notice of the Coal Controller until recently. As soon as the information was received the case was investigated and all supplies of coal were suspended some weeks ago.

Mr. Turton: Is it not a fact that the cottages are gardeners' cottages, which, if strictly rationed, would have less than a ton of coal a year?

Sir Ivor Phillips: Will the excess coal be taken away from this German coal-hoarder?

Mr. Wardle: No more will be supplied until it is absolutely necessary.

Mr. Turton: Is it not a fact that over 200 tons are still hoarded on this German estate?

"And is there no power to prosecute him?" asked Sir Ivor Phillips.

Mr. Wardle: I do not think so at this stage, because the rationing order did not apply to that particular district. He (Mr. Wardle) would consult the Law Officers of the Crown.

### SPECIAL TREATMENT OF THE OLDER MEN.

MAINLY TO BE USED FOR GARRISON DUTY.

An important announcement was made in the House of Commons recently with respect to the position of older men called to the Army, by Mr. Beck, Parliamentary Secretary to the National Service Ministry.

Men over the old military age limit of 41 were, he said, graded relatively to the standards applicable to men of their age. When one of these men was placed in Grade 1 it implied that he had the full normal physical fitness to be expected of a man of his age. The same relative standard applied to the other grades in the case of older men.

"Consequently," continued Mr. Beck, "the military training and subsequent disposition of the older men by the military authorities is governed by similar considerations. It is their intention that the greater proportion of the older men shall be used for garrison and auxiliary duties at home, and for similar duties overseas. There are no intention of drafting these men for duty in field formations overseas in the same manner and after the same comparatively short period of training as is customary in the case of younger men. Those of the older men who are found to be fit for field service of a less arduous character will receive a modified course of instruction and training under special supervision."

Mr. Pringle: Does it mean that Grade 1 men of 45 are distinct from Grade 1 men of 35?

Mr. Beck: Oh, certainly.

Sir H. Field: What country has the National Service Ministry over them when they are based over to the War Office?

Mr. Beck: We have no actual control over them, but the War Office has arranged to use these men in a different capacity from the use they make of the younger men.

Mr. Pringle: We must understand these Grade 1 men of the older category are only for garrison duty at home?

Mr. Beck: It is perfectly true there is a different standard.

"I refuse to treat as palliation of a crime the fact that a man has served his country," said the Common Serjeant, at the Old Bailey, in sentencing a discharged soldier to six months' imprisonment for larceny.

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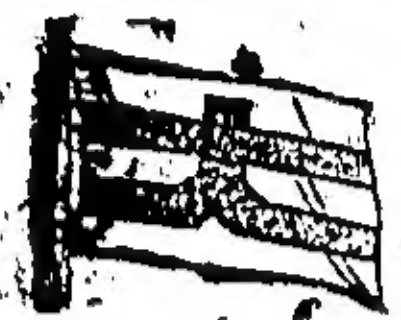
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For KEELUNG via SWATOW and AMOY.

AMAKUSA MARU—Sunday, 25th Aug. at Noon.

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SWATOW & SINGAPORE	TAKING	Aug. 26, at Noon.
SHANGHAI	SUKIANG	Aug. 27, at 3 p.m.
TIENTSIN	KUICHOW	Aug. 30, at Noon.
SHANGHAI	SUIYANG	Aug. 30, at 3 p.m.
SHANGHAI	KAIPO	Aug. 31, at 4 p.m.

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SHANGHAI via SWATOW	WINGSANG	TUESDAY, Aug. 27, Daylight.
and FOCHOW	YUENSANG	FRIDAY, Aug. 30, at 3 p.m.
MANILA	MAUSANG	WEDNESDAY, Sept. 4, at Noon.
SANDAKAN	LOONGSANG	FRIDAY, Sept. 6, at 3 p.m.

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Hongkong, Nov. 23, 1917. 2315.

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